

Mineral Industry Surveys

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GYPSUM IN OCTOBER 2005

Producers mined 1.72 million metric tons (Mt) of gypsum in October 2005 (table 1). Output was 2% more than that of September 2005 and 18% more than that of October 2004. Synthetic gypsum production was 851,000 metric tons (t) in October 2005 (table 1), which was 4% more than that of September 2005, and 16% more than that of October 2004. Both mined and synthetic gypsum are used as raw material for wallboard. The wallboard industry is the largest domestic consumer of gypsum. During January through September 2005 synthetic gypsum accounted for 6.99 Mt, or about 24%, of the 29.1-Mt supply of gypsum in the United States. Sales of uncalcined gypsum, mainly for portland cement manufacture and for agricultural uses, were 765,000 t (table 2), 45% more than that of September 2005 and 29% more than that of October 2004.

Output of calcined gypsum for October (table 1) was 2.21 Mt, 3% more than that of September 2005 and 16% more than that of October 2004. Sales of board products were about 3.1 billion

square feet (284 million square meters), 3% less than that of September 2005 and 5% more than that of October 2004.

U.S. Government import and export data for October 2005 were not available at the time of publication. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, imports of crude gypsum in September 2005 were 1,225,000 t (table 3), 32% more than that of August 2005 and 47% more than that of September 2004. Gypsum wallboard imports, principally from Canada, for September 2005 were 81,000 t, equivalent to 97 million square feet (9.0 million square meters). These imports were 21% more than that of August 2005 and 42% more than that of September 2004. Wallboard exports to 34 countries and territories in September 2005 were 7,900 t, equivalent to 9.5 million square feet (877,000 square meters). These exports were about 10% more than that of August 2005 and 3% more than that of September 2004.

All percentages in this report were computed based on unrounded data.

TABLE 1
GYPSUM SUPPLY^{1,2}

(Metric tons)

	2005			2004
	October	September	January-October	January-October
Crude:				
Mined ³	1,720,000	1,680,000	15,400,000	14,000,000
Imported ⁴	NA	1,220,000	NA	8,250,000
Synthetic gypsum ⁵	851,000	820,000	7,840,000	7,180,000
Total supply	NA	3,730,000	NA	29,400,000
Crude, exported ⁴	NA	8,260	NA	121,000
Consumption	NA	3,720,000	NA	29,300,000
Calcined:				
Produced	2,210,000	2,150,000	20,500,000	17,800,000
Imported ⁶	NA	530	NA	4,110
Total supply	NA	2,150,000	NA	17,800,000
Exported ⁶	NA	17,800	NA	270,000
Consumption	NA	2,130,000	NA	17,500,000

NA Not available.

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Some data were estimated from semiannual reports.

⁴Import and export data are for "Gypsum; anhydrite," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.10.0000.

⁵Reported production only.

⁶Import and export data are for "Plaster," Harmonized Tariff Schedule 2520.20.0000.

TABLE 2
GYPSUM SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS, BY USE^{1,2}

(Metric tons, unless otherwise specified)

	2005			2004
	October	September	January-October	January-October
Uncalcined: ³				
Portland cement	310,000	285,000	3,160,000	3,990,000
Agriculture and miscellaneous	454,000	242,000	2,500,000	1,780,000
Total	765,000	527,000	5,650,000	5,660,000
Calcined:				
Board products ⁴	2,550,000	2,630,000	25,100,000	26,200,000
Plaster	12,900	13,000	135,000	150,000
Total	2,560,000	2,640,000	25,300,000	26,300,000
Board products: (Thousand square feet) ⁵				
Regular board	1,890,000	1,960,000	18,600,000	19,200,000
Type X board	881,000	896,000	8,830,000	9,290,000
Other	291,000	291,000	2,760,000	2,880,000
Total supply	3,060,000	3,150,000	30,200,000	31,400,000

¹Includes data from the Gypsum Association.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

³Does not include synthetic gypsum from electric power plants.

⁴Includes weight of paper and other materials.

⁵One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

TABLE 3
CRUDE GYPSUM IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION¹

(Metric tons)

Country of origin	2005			2004
	September	August	January-September	January-September
Austria	--	--	--	8
Bahrain	--	--	7	--
Canada	740,000	640,000	5,700,000	5,000,000
China	--	--	16	41,300
Costa Rica	--	--	--	53
Denmark	--	--	34	--
Dominica	--	--	2	--
Dominican Republic	29,100	18,500	153,000	99,100
France	17	--	36	--
Germany	--	40	120	--
Italy	--	--	1	26,900
Jamaica	21,500	--	64,600	19,200
Japan	--	--	--	3
Mexico	245,000	218,000	189,000	1,580,000
Peru	--	--	80	2
Spain	190,000	48,600	625,000	540,000
Sweden	--	--	40	--
United Kingdom	--	--	1	21
Total	1,220,000	926,000	8,440,000	7,300,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 4
CRUDE GYPSUM IN THE UNITED STATES^{1,2}

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Consumption ³	Production ⁴	Imports ⁵	Exports ⁵
2004:				
October	2,400	1,460	954	14
November	2,360	1,460	920	13
December	2,420	1,480	958	14
January-December	26,900	16,900	10,100	149
2005:				
January	2,220	1,460	770	14
February	2,190	1,460	755	17
March	2,400	1,470	964	27
April	2,320	1,420	909	12
May	2,800	1,820	994	11
June	2,580	1,620	972	10
July	2,500	1,590	923	9
August	2,550	1,630	926	12
September	2,890	1,680	1,230	18
October	NA	1,720	NA	NA

NA Not available.

¹Excludes synthetic gypsum.

²Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits.

³Consumption calculated by adding the production and imports shown in this table and subtracting the exports shown in this table. Monthly inventory changes are not included.

⁴Production data are from the semiannual gypsum canvasses of the non-wallboard producers, annual canvass of all producers, and from monthly data furnished by the Gypsum Association from the wallboard producers.

⁵Data from U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 5
SALES OF GYPSUM BOARD PRODUCTS, BY SALES REGIONS^{1,2}

(Thousand square feet)³

	New England	Middle Atlantic	E. North Central	W. North Central	South Atlantic	E. South Central	W. South Central	Mountain	Pacific	Exports	Total
2005:											
October:											
Veneer base	25,300	2,150	6,760	637	8,040	74	39	493	1,010	--	44,500
Sheathing	1,600	4,020	5,640	5,630	19,300	3,190	12,200	6,920	9,280	1,860	69,600
Regular gypsum board	41,100	147,000	222,000	114,000	551,000	139,000	243,000	188,000	212,000	33,100	1,890,000
Type X gypsum board	26,300	83,100	129,000	67,000	133,000	31,100	97,600	116,000	191,000	6,570	881,000
Predecorated board	283	626	1,040	414	1,450	424	785	439	754	41	6,260
5/16 Mobile home board	--	1,390	7,220	125	13,400	17,900	8,840	302	1,000	--	50,200
Water/moisture resistant board	5,040	20,900	13,900	5,810	28,800	4,850	10,200	10,400	16,300	4,000	120,000
Total	99,600	260,000	385,000	194,000	755,000	197,000	372,000	323,000	432,000	45,600	3,060,000
January- October:											
Veneer base	255,000	23,200	74,800	7,770	91,500	310	447	2,890	13,600	437	470,000
Sheathing	15,000	43,600	51,800	59,700	171,000	29,800	118,000	63,400	90,600	12,500	655,000
Regular gypsum board	418,000	1,450,000	2,190,000	1,150,000	5,500,000	1,300,000	2,270,000	1,870,000	2,110,000	323,000	18,600,000
Type X gypsum board	271,000	863,000	1,240,000	667,000	1,480,000	315,000	901,000	1,120,000	1,910,000	69,500	8,830,000
Predecorated board	3,050	6,270	9,190	4,550	13,200	3,800	8,900	3,680	6,230	490	59,400
5/16 Mobile home board	--	7,870	49,000	152	103,000	127,000	66,700	1,550	6,590	116	362,000
Water/moisture resistant board	52,800	204,000	146,000	62,700	282,000	49,000	108,000	102,000	163,000	39,600	1,210,000
Total	1,010,000	2,600,000	3,770,000	1,950,000	7,640,000	1,820,000	3,470,000	3,160,000	4,300,000	446,000	30,200,000

-- Zero.

¹Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

²Sales region equivalent to U.S. Census Bureau Geographic Division as follows: New England (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT); Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA); East North Central (IL, IN, MI, OH, WI); West North Central (IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD); South Atlantic (DC, DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV); East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN); West South Central (AR, LA, OK, TX); Mountain (AZ, CO, ID, MT, NM, NV, UT, WY); Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA).

³One square meter equals 10.78 square feet.

Source: Gypsum Association.